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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF   : DATE ALLOWED: AUGUST 20, 2007

YOSHITSUGU GOTO, ET AL.   : EXAMINER: ALHIJA, S.

SERIAL NO: 10/630,776   :

FILED: JULY 31, 2003   : GROUP ART UNIT: 2128

FOR: METHOD OF IDENTIFYING   :
BOUNDARY CONDITION BETWEEN
COMPONENTS OF OBJECT OF
ANALYSIS

COMMENTS ON STATEMENT OF REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

MAIL STOP ISSUE FEE
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SIR:

Applicant acknowledges with appreciation the indication of allowability of the

claimed invention. In response to the Examiner's Statement of Reason for Allowance in the

Notice of Allowance of August 20, 2007, Applicant respectfully submits the following

comments.

Paragraph 2 on page 2 of the Notice of Allowance states:

> The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for
> allowance: The claims are novel and nonobvious over the prior
> art of record for the following reasons. The prior art of record
> does not disclose or suggest the following features in light of
> the specification as well as in combination as arranged in the
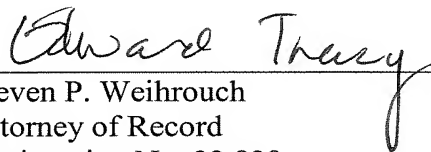> claims:
> The extracting step includes reducing a number of the
> plurality of calculated mode vectors by filtering said plurality
> of calculated mode vectors using at least one of order ratio
> filtering, component comparison filtering and frequency
> filtering. The filtering processes are defined in the specification

of the instant application in Figure 4, elements 122, 124, and 126 as well as with respect to order ratio filtering, see paragraphs 60-61, component comparison filtering, see paragraphs 62-65, and frequency filtering, see paragraph 66. The limitations not corresponding to the filtering processes described have been anticipated by the previously cited references, Stubbs U.S. Patent No. 5,327,358 as well as Liu. However the filtering processes as defined in the specification in combination and conjunction with the claims as arranged render the claims novel and non-obvious. In addition, software packages such as ANSYS and NASTRAN which perform FEM analysis are relevant prior art but lack the specificity to overcome the claims us arranged with specificity drawn to the filtering processes defined in the specification and recited above.

To the extent the above comments read exemplary embodiments of the specification into the allowed claims, it is respectfully noted that the allowed claims simply recite "order ratio filtering, component comparison filtering and frequency filtering." Accordingly, the comments quoted above do not apply to any of the allowed claims, and the portions of the present specification cited above do not limit the allowed claims.

Respectfully submitted,

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